

Richardson Explains Water Problem Of West Basin In Simple Language

(Editor's Note—Some 900 individual well owners, firms and corporations are defendants in a water rights adjudication suit now being tried in Superior Court. This action involves all producers and consumers in what is termed the West Basin, approximately all coastal area from Inglewood to Long Beach. While Torrance is fortunate in having membership in the Metropolitan Water District and good producing wells which have shown no evidence of saline nor lowering of water levels, other cities of the area are battling the problem of "What to do" to gain an adequate supply of water. Torrance well owners are involved in the situation, however, and subject to the findings of the court on how much water they can safely draw from their wells. In order that all may have a clear understanding of the situation, B. K. Richardson, chairman of the Southwest Water Fact-Finding Committee, has prepared an article printed below which states in very simple terms the situation.)

By B. K. RICHARDSON
Chairman Southwest Water Fact-Finding Committee

I think everyone in the West Basin should know the story of our critical water problem.

It has a two-and-two-make-four simplicity.

If you have \$1,000 in the bank and each month draw out more than you deposit it will not be long before you are broke.

It's the same with water. For many years the West Basin, figuratively speaking, had a lot of money in the bank.

In other words our natural water deposits far exceeded our withdrawals.

Now the picture has reversed itself. We are drawing out of our bank much more than we are putting back into it.

In other words we are living beyond our income.

The ultimate answer to that question is always the same. Bankruptcy!

Let's see exactly what we mean. Hydraulic engineers say we withdrew from our bank, i.e., our water-bearing beds, 69,574.5 acre feet of water in 1945.

Engineers estimate that during that time nature put in the bank for us 81,800 acre feet (Glosson) or 40,000 acre feet (Alexander).

Obviously our bank account

dwindled, and is continuing to dwindle, from 29,476.5 to 37,676.5 acre feet per year.

Or, to put it another way, we are living 1.70 to 2.20 beyond our income.

In the case of an individual or a corporation a bank would consider this an alarming condition.

And these happen to be the very words hydraulic engineers use to describe the water situation in the West Basin.

When individuals or corporations are faced with financial disaster they ordinarily have two choices.

They cut expenses or increase income.

We of the West Basin cannot cut our expenses, i.e., water, because we are a large and growing family of 10 cities and unincorporated areas whose water needs for many years to come will constantly increase.

So engineers tell us the only way to have what we have and avoid bankruptcy is to do what many other areas already have done, namely, to find new water.

Even in the race of increasing needs our deposits must once again exceed our withdrawals.

How to do this fairly, economically and effectively is really the only problem before us.

For at the rate we are going there simply will not be any money (water) left in the bank at a time in the not remote future when we are most going to need it.

Pictures Of Vets Ready For Return At Herald Office

Owners of pictures of veterans used in the record-breaking souvenir "Veterans Welcome Home" edition of the Torrance Herald of July 4 are requested to call for them at the business office of the Herald.

There are a few copies of the edition remaining unsold, but they are going fast and persons desiring copies should not delay in purchasing them.

The edition has been complimented far and wide as finest gesture in behalf of a community's veterans yet performed by a newspaper.

Mayor Urges Men To Enlist In State Guard

Men of Torrance between the ages of 17 and 45 were urged this week by Mayor J. Hughes Sherfey, Jr., to enlist in the California State Guard, for the new short-term enlistments, in order to assist the city in qualifying for a unit of the California National Guard, promised in a recent communication from Brig. Gen. C. D. O'Sullivan, the adjutant general of California.

"The City of Torrance has gone on record as desiring a unit of the California National Guard and the State of California has promised us one," Mayor Sherfey said. "I now ask that this fine support accorded to the city of Torrance be reflected by a showing of the willingness of the young men of the community to enlist in the State Guard."

"It is my understanding that there is no obligation to enlist in the National Guard. On the other hand, men of the State Guard will be discharged before being sent to the National Guard, but those who qualify will benefit from the valuable training offered by Company H, stationed at Torrance ball park."

Capt. R. L. Lewellen, commanding Co. H, 2nd Battalion, 38th Regiment, said that the short term enlistments are being offered because it is reported to be but a matter of months before the National Guard is reactivated. Those men who qualify will be given the opportunity of going into the National Guard with its pay and regular summer encampments besides other benefits.

Training will be offered in all phases of military activity, with stress on use of heavy weapons, it was said. Enlistments are taken each Monday night in the armory at the ball park.

Miss Boudinot Terminates Her School Service

Leaving the Torrance elementary school following more than twenty years of successful teaching, Miss Lovina Boudinot recently announced her termination here. Among the most popular of the local teachers, Miss Boudinot recently received a pair of parakeets from the faculty, which will be added to her huge collection of birds.

Many of her former pupils continue to correspond with her and she has received countless letters from those in the military service.

Since her mother's death in 1942, Miss Boudinot has assumed the care of her father, which now requires a great portion of her time. She will remain active in church and Sunday school work.

A teacher who has enjoyed her work, Miss Boudinot was given a life membership in the Torrance Elementary P.T.A. in 1941.

Two Torrance Men Serving On USS Providence

Garth Arthur Baer, 22, chief electrician's mate, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur L. Baer, 2435 Border ave., and Pfc. Hugo Edward Robst, 19, USMC, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Robst, 807 W. Carson st., are serving aboard the light cruiser USS Providence, now at Philadelphia after completing an eight-month tour of duty as flagship of the Mediterranean fleet.

The Providence, while operating out of Naples, Italy, officially visited over twelve Mediterranean ports, including Marsailles, Athens, Istanbul, Alexandria, Damascus and Tangiers. From these ports many Providence men made tours to Bern, Switzerland, Rome, Cairo and other famous inland cities.

FISHERMEN HELP

A Michigan service station went on 24-hour operation as a service to anglers at the opening of the fishing season in that state and reported a sales increase of 7,000 gallons of gasoline in a month.

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